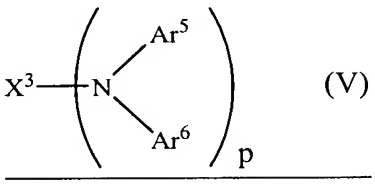
Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,203,933 to Nakaya et al. ("Nakaya"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites "[a]n electroluminescence device comprising a pair of electrodes and a layer of an organic light emitting medium disposed between the pair of electrodes, wherein the layer of an organic light emitting medium comprises: (A) at least one arylamine compound represented by the following formula (V):



(V)

wherein X^3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted condensed aromatic ring group, the condensed aromatic ring group being derived from naphthalene, phenanthrene, fluoranthene, anthracene, pyrene, perylene, coronene, chrysene, picene, diphenylanthracene, fluorene, triphenylene, rubicene, benzoanthracene, phenylanthracene, bisanthracene, dianthracenylbenzene or dibenzoanthracene, Ar^5 and Ar^6 each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, and p represents an integer of 1 to 4, provided that X^3 does not represent a fluorene group that is di-substituted at the 9-position, and said arylamine contains no styryl group and no styrylene group; and (B) a compound having condensed rings represented by the following formula (IV-a) ..." (emphasis added). Nakaya does not disclose or suggest such an electroluminescence device.

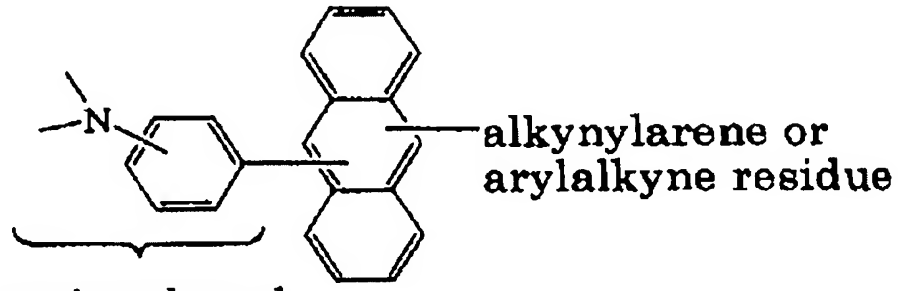
As indicated above, the arylamine compound of claim 1 requires at least one diarylamino group (NAr^5Ar^6). The Office Action has taken the position that the compound of formula (I) of Nakaya ($(Ar)_m$-L) corresponds to the arylamine compound of claim 1, when

L is anthracene, Ar is an aminophenyl group and m is 2. *See* Office Action, page 2; Nakaya, column 3, lines 14 to 36. Applicants respectfully disagree.

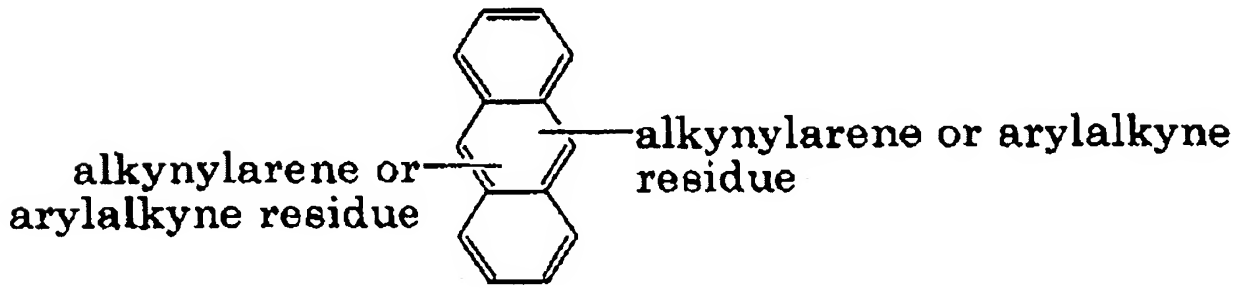
As discussed during the Personal Interview, Nakaya discloses that:

> Also, L is preferably selected from divalent to hexavalent, especially divalent to tetravalent residues derived from anthracene. It is noted that where L is a di- or trivalent residue derived from anthracene, at least one of two or three Ar groups is a residue derived from an alkynylarene or arylalkyne. Preferably two or more Ar groups are such residues. Especially, L is preferably a trivalent residue derived from anthracene. Preferred among the compounds of the general formula (I) are those wherein L is such a residue, two Ar groups are arylalkynyl groups, and one Ar group is a bis(arylalkynyl)anthryl group, especially those compounds of the following general formula (I-1).

See Nakaya, column 11, line 21 to column 12, line 5 (emphasis added). That is, Nakaya does not disclose a compound according to formula (I), in which L is anthracene and, Ar is an aminophenyl group and m is 2. Rather, when L is anthracene and m is 2 in formula (I) of Nakaya, as proposed in the Office Action, the following structures are possible (allowing for an aminophenyl group as Ar):



or



As agreed during the Personal Interview, neither of these structures falls within the scope of the arylamine compound of claim 1.

As Nakaya fails to disclose or suggest the arylamine compound of claim 1, Nakaya fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

As explained, claim 1 would not have been rendered obvious by Nakaya. Claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Nakaya. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1, 21 and 22 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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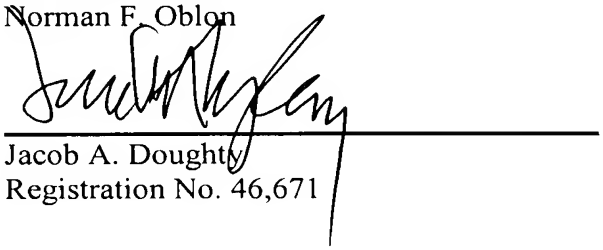

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